wake of all natural calamities including snowfall. The State Level Committee is empowered to decide on all matters relating to financing of relief expenditure including norms of assistance. The States of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh have an allocation of Rs. 18.00, 12.00 and Rs. 90.00 crores respectively under CRF. The Central Government had released its entire share of CRF for 1990-91 by end of March, 1991. For 1991-92 also Central Government by now has released first two quarterly instalments.

Article 370 of the Constitution

309. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to repeal Article 370 of the Constitution; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

310. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) India's stand on Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty;

(b) whether the Government of any other country have approached the Government of India to sign this Treaty; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) India has not signed the Non-proliferation Treaty because that Treaty does not provide for a balance of obligations and responsibilities between the nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear weapon States. Whereas the Treaty has no provisions for imposing non-proliferation obligations on the nuclear-weapon States, it places full scope safeguards and controls on the nuclear programmes of the non-nuclear weapon States. Thus, the Treaty is discriminatory and legitimises the possession of nuclear weapons by nuclear-weapon States.

(b) and (c) Some States have, from time to time, tried to persuade or pressurise us to change our position on the Non-proliferation Treaty; but India's stand on the NPT remains unchanged.

[*Translation*]

Issuance of Arm Licence

311. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any directions have been issued to the State Governments regarding issuance of arms licences;

(b) the norms recommended by the Union Government to the Government of Uttar Pradesh regarding issuance of arms licences;

(c) whether arms licences are being issued to the general public for their security; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (d) Under the provisions of Arms Act, 1959 and the